

## Message Text

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44

ACTION IO-11

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 NEA-10 ISO-00 IOE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 DHA-02 ORM-02 DPW-01 ACDA-05

OES-03 ERDA-05 AID-05 OMB-01 TRSE-00 SAM-01 HEW-02

AGR-05 IGA-02 /108 W

----- 010980

P R 021532Z FEB 76

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7888

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY RABAT PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, MPOS, AG, LY, MO, SS

SUBJ: SAHARA: ALGERIANS LOSE ROUND I

REF: ALGIERS 0247

1. RE PARA 8 REF, UNHCR REP ARNAOUT WHO ACCOMPANIED DIRECTOR ASSISTANCE DIVISION JAEGER IN MID DECEMBER VISIT TO ALGERIA CHARACTERIZED PRESS REPORT THAT MISSION HAD TERMED SAHARA SITUATION "ETHNOCIDE" AS BOTH "RIDICULOUS" AND "RUBBISH". HE STATED THAT MISSION HAD AT NO TIME MADE ANY PUBLIC COMMENT OTHER THAN TO SAY THAT THIS VISIT WAS AT REQUEST OF ALGERIAN GOVERNMENT WITH PURPOSE OF VIEWING SITUATION ON THE SOPT. ONE OBJECT OF TRIP, ARNAOUT SAID, WAS TO ACCOMPLISH PURPOSE WITH AS LITTLE PUBLICITY AS POSSIBLE. ARNAOUT WENT ON TO SAY, HOWEVER, THAT HIS PARTY FOUND THE SITUATION OF THE 20,000 REFUGEES VEN IN ALGERIA VERY SERIOUS, WITH WOMEN AND

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CHILDREN SUBSISTING IN BITTER COLD WITH INSUFFICIENT

CLOTHING, FEW BLANKETS AND GREAT SHORTAGE OF BEDS. SINCE THEN, HE OBSERVED, THERE HAS EVIDENTLY BEEN A GREAT INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF GENUINE REFUGEES AND HE DID NOT DOUBT THAT THEIR SITUATION IS APPROACHING THE DESPERATE. ALTHOUGH UNHCR HAS NOT AS YET ISSUED AN APPEAL FOR FUNDS, IT HAS, ACCORDING TO ARNAOUT, WITHDRAWN \$500,000 FROM ITS EMERGENCY FUND TO MEET THE SITUATION.

2. AS REGARDS NAPALM CHARGE, INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS (ICRC) AUTHORITIES HERE STATE CATEGORICALLY THAT ACCUSATION NOT RPT NOT MADE BY THEIR ORGANIZATION. SPECULATED THAT POSSIBLY IT EMANATED FROM EITHER SAHRAOUI RED CROSS OR ALGERIAN RED CRESCENT. UNABLE CONTACT LICROSS THUS FAR, BUT NOTE THEY HAVE REPRESENTATIVE IN TINDOUF.

3. ICRC REP GAILLARD (SEE GENEVA 0484) SAID CONFIDENTIALLY HE DEPARTING TONIGHT FOR MOROCCO WHERE HE HOPES INTER ALIA TO VISIT ALGERIAN PRISONERS. EXPECTS RETURN GENEVA EARLY NEXT WEEK AND WILL BE IN COMMUNICATION THEN WITH MISSION.

4. COMMENT: BOTH UNHCR AND ICRC REPS HAVE COMMENTED TO MISOFFS ON SUSCEPTIBILITY THEIR VISITS TO POLITICAL MANIPULATION BY BOTH SIDES, AND THEIR ANXIETY TO MAINTAIN STRICTLY NEUTRAL PUBLIC POSTURE.

5. AS FOREGOING BEING PROCESSED GAILLARD TELEPHONED TO STATE THAT ICRC ISSUING PRESS RELEASE (NO. 1258) TODAY TO FORMALLY DISASSOCIATE ITSELF FROM SPANISH NEW AGENCY PRESS REPORT ON MOROCCAN USE OF NAPALM.BRUNGART

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DISPUTES, REFUGEES, REFUGEE RELIEF  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 02 FEB 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
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**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** morefirh  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
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